

General Information

Maintained Trails are marked with grey diamond trail blazers on trees or carsonite posts. Trail junctions are marked with brown signs with white lettering.

Drinking water is NOT available along the trail. Each trail user should carry at least 1 quart of water.

Allow approximately 2-4 hours to travel the loop trail depending on fitness levels. The trip to the observation point and return will take approximately 1 to 1 & 1/2 hours to complete.

Bicyclists-Please alert others of your presence when approaching from behind.



Please don't cut the switchback or pioneer new trails

For more information contact the Hell Canyon Ranger District of the Black Hills National Forest at either:

330 Mount Rushmore Road
Custer, South Dakota 57730
(605) 673-4853

or

1225 Washington Blvd.
Newcastle, Wyoming 82701
(307) 746-2782

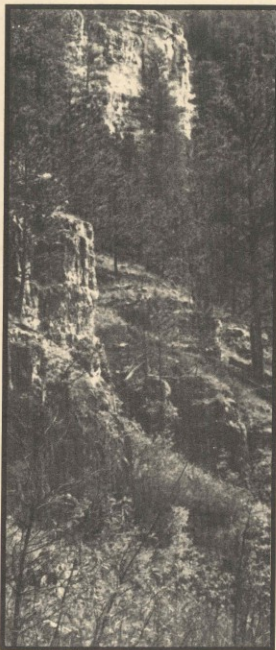


Photo by Burns L. Davison

HELL CANYON TRAIL Trail Number 32

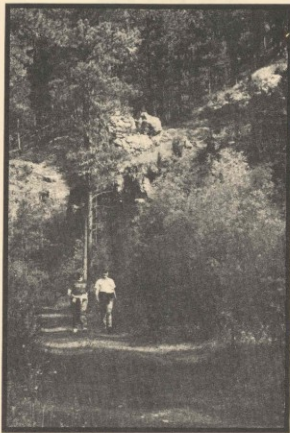


Photo by Burns L. Davison

**Hell Canyon Ranger District
Black Hills National Forest**



Hell Canyon Trail



ELEVATION: 5,400 to 5,700 feet

LENGTH: Loop - 5.5 miles
Spur Trail to observation point - 1/2 mile

LOCATION: From Custer: Trailhead is approximately 11.0 miles west on Highway 16.

From Jewel Cave: Trailhead is approximately 1.0 mile west of Jewel Cave National Monument entrance on Highway 16.

Trail is maintained for hikers, horseback riders, and mountain bikers. No motorized use is allowed. The trail begins at the trailhead located approximately 100 yards north of US Highway 16 along Forest Development Road number 284.2.

The first 1/2 mile of trail climbs at a steep pitch with one switchback until you top out on the limestone crest. From there on grades are level to easy. This trail follows a bench below limestone cliffs and provides outstanding views of Hell Canyon and the surrounding area. The last 2.0 miles of trail follows a two-track road along the bottom of the Hell Canyon drainage.

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To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, USDA, Washington DC 20250, or call (202) 720-7327 (voice) or (202) 720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

